



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/501,251	07/08/2004	Daisuke Fujiwara	57557US004	7520

32692 7590 03/21/2006

3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY
PO BOX 33427
ST. PAUL, MN 55133-3427

EXAMINER

OSELE, MARK A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

1734

DATE MAILED: 03/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/501,251

Applicant(s)

FUJIWARA, DAISUKE

Examiner

Mark A. Osele

Art Unit

1734

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8,10-12,14-21 and 25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8,10-12 and 14-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 25 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-8, 10-12, and 14-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 01/25077 (Shinozaki et al.) in view of Azuhata. Shinozaki et al. shows an adhesive tape attaching jig for continuous attachment of adhesive tape, T, to the shape of a long object, the jig comprising: a tape holder, 12, which receives and holds the adhesive tape; a tape attacher, 9, which contact bonds the adhesive tape onto the tape attachment surface, F; and a jig guide, 11b, 11c, which continuously guides the attaching jig along the object wherein the tape holder and said jig guide member each comprise an adjustable mechanism, spring 7 and unmarked spring inside element 4a, respectively. Shinozaki et al. fails to show a third adjustable mechanism for the tape attacher.

Azuhata also shows an adhesive tape attaching jig for continuous attachment of adhesive tape to the shape of a long object wherein the tape attacher, 12, is connected to an adjustable mechanism, 25, (column 6, lines 8-16) thereby allowing the tape attacher to match the width of the adhesive tape or object even when the width of the object is continuously increased and decreased (column 4, lines 18-27). It would have

Art Unit: 1734

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add the adjustable mechanism of Azuhata to the tape attacher of Shinozaki et al. because Azuhata teaches that this additional adjustable mechanism allows proper placement of tape on long objects with variable width.

As to Claim 2, Azuhata discloses an adhesive tape attaching jig (Figure 3) wherein the adjustable mechanism of the tape holder (11) and the adjustable mechanism of the tape attacher (12) are the same mechanism (20, 25).

Regarding claims 3, 10, and 11, Shinozaki et al. shows the tape attaching jig to have an adjustable mechanism, 7, which allows adjustment of the positional relationship between the tape attacher, 9, and both the object, F, and jig guide member, 11b, 11c (See Fig. 2).

Regarding claims 4 and 12, each adjustable mechanism is a slide mechanism provided with energizing means comprising springs.

As to Claims 5, 14, 15, and 16 Azuhata discloses an adhesive tape attaching jig (Figure 3) wherein the tape attacher (12) has at least one attachment head comprising a cylindrical member.

As to Claims 6, 17, 18, 19, and 20, Azuhata discloses an adhesive tape attaching jig (Figures 3 and 7) wherein the attaching jig (10) is suitable for the attachment of adhesive tape (Ta) in a manner conforming to the shape and/or size of a long object (3) extending in the longitudinal direction and having a varying shape and/or size on the tape attachment surface (4) along its length.

As to Claims 7 and 21, Azuhata discloses an adhesive tape attaching jig (Figure 7) which is suitable for attaching an adhesive film (Ta) for an automobile sash frame (3).

As to Claim 8, Azuhata discloses an adhesive tape attaching jig (Figure 7) wherein the tape holder (11) comprises an adjustable mechanism (20, 25) for matching the width of the adhesive tape.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claim 25 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed February 2, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that the references do not show the jig guide member adjustable mechanism and the tape holder adjustable mechanism to be different mechanisms. Although Azuhata does show the jig guide adjustable mechanism, the tape holder adjustable mechanism, and the tape attacher adjustable mechanism to each be the same device, the primary reference to Shinozaki et al. shows the tape holder adjustable mechanism and jig guide adjustable mechanism to be separate devices. Combining the teachings of Azuhata into the apparatus of Shinozaki et al. would merely add a tape attacher adjustable mechanism, not change the

Art Unit: 1734

orientation of existing parts in Shinozaki et al. such that the jig guide adjustable mechanism and tape holder adjustable mechanism were the same device.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark A. Osele whose telephone number is 571-272-1235. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Fiorilla can be reached on 571-272-1187. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



MARK A. OSELE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

March 19, 2006